Executive Order 2005-12

To Spend Money from the Health Crisis Fund On the Prevention of Pertussis

WHEREAS, pertussis (whooping cough) is a potentially lethal disease that is causing serious illnesses and fatalities in Arizona infants this year; and

WHEREAS, there are currently significant outbreaks of pertussis in counties across Arizona; and

WHEREAS, Arizona is currently experiencing its most prolonged pertussis outbreak since 1997; and

WHEREAS, the number of cases of pertussis in Arizona has increased every quarter for the last four quarters, suggesting that there is a significant threat of a large epidemic; and

WHEREAS, pertussis is being spread in part by adolescents whose vaccine-induced immunity has waned; and

WHEREAS, a new vaccine is available for immunizing adolescents, providing a powerful new intervention to help slow the spread of the disease from adolescents to infants, who are the most likely to die from it; and

WHEREAS, the foregoing circumstances constitute a significant potential for a health crisis in Arizona; and

WHEREAS, these circumstances are neither a contingency nor an emergency pursuant to A.R.S... § 35-192 because they require neither state-municipal resource coordination nor Department of Emergency and Military Affairs assistance;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Janet Napolitano, Governor of the State of Arizona, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Arizona Constitution and the laws of the State, declare a significant potential for a health crisis in the State, and hereby order as follows:

- 1. Pursuant to A.R.S. § 36-797, the sum of five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000.00) shall be transferred from the Health Crisis Fund to the Department of Health Services ("DHS") for use in responding to the current pertussis outbreak.
- 2. DHS shall expend all moneys transferred pursuant to this Order on measures to reduce the spread and threat to public health posed by pertussis in Arizona and shall report to the Legislature and the Governor by December 31, 2005 on the expenditure of all sums so transferred.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have unto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Arizona.



DONE at the Capitol in Phoenix on this 20⁺¹ day of May in the Year Two Thousand and Five and of the Independence of the United States of America the Two Hundred and Twenty-Ninth.

ATTEST:

SECRETARY OF STATE

price K. Brewer

